Power generation from Dabhol Power Plant

†2871. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power generation in Dabhol Power Plant at Ratnagiri has been put to halt again;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the recent past, permanent arrangement had been made to supply gas as fuel to the said project; and

(d) if so, the details of such arrangement, along with the price of gas fixed there under?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) The Dabhol Power Plant of Ratnagiri Gas and Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL) supplied power using Naphtha as fuel to the Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd. (MSEDCL), as per their demand, till 28.06.2007 and thereafter the unit was kept in reserve shutdown on account of low demand in monsoons by MSEDCL.

Regassified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) supplies through Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) commenced to the plant on 23rd July, 2007 the plant switched over from Naphtha to RLNG/gas as its primary fuel on 31.07.2007.

However, on 31.07.2007, the Hon'ble High Court, Gujarat granted a stay on pooled price of gas. Hon'ble Supreme Court vacated the stay on 22.08.2007.

RGPPL have informed that GAIL resumed RLNG supply on pooled price with effect from 28.08.2007, and that the generation of Power for supply to MSEDCL commenced on the same day.

RGPPL has entered into gas sale agreement with GAIL, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) for supply of 1.5 MMTPA RLNG upto September, 2009. This quantity is sufficient to operate two out of the three Power Blocks of the RGPPL plant. GAIL and Petronet LNG Ltd. (PLL) have yet to tie-up balance 0.7 MMTPA gas for the third unit and also the gas supplies for the entire plant for the period beyond September, 2009. As regards the price of gas/RLNG, as per the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), RGPPL shall be required to obtain approval of MSEDCL on contracting terms and price. GAIL has informed that the pooled price of RLNG works out to be US Dollar 4.3272/Million British Thermal Units (MMBTU).

Efficient consumption of electricity

†2872. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that status of electricity consumption in the country is less than the global level;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.